

DOCKET NO.: P04729
CLIENT NO.: NATI15-04729
Customer No.: 23990

PATENT

BW/B

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of  : AVIV MALINOVITCH
U.S. Serial No. : 09/780,100
Filing Date : February 9, 2001
Title : APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR PROVIDING MULTIPLE POWER SUPPLY VOLTAGES TO AN INTEGRATED CIRCUIT
Examiner : Robert L. Deberadinis
Group Art Unit : 2836
Conformation No. : 6462

MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

The undersigned hereby certifies that the following documents:

1. Postcard receipt;
2. Petition to Withdraw Holding of Abandonment;
3. Statement of Laura Zavala;
4. Statement of Kathy Hamilton;
5. Account Detail Report; and
6. A copy of the Part B Issue Fee Transmittal, Fee Transmittal, Transmittal Letter, Request for Reconsideration of Patent Term Adjustment Determination Under 37 C.F.R. 1.705 (b), check in the amount of \$1,860.00 for the issue fee (\$1,330.00), Request for Reconsideration of Patent Term Adjustment (\$200.00), publication fee (\$300.00) and soft copies (\$30.00), Certificate of Mailing by First Class Mail and the postcard forwarding same on March 31, 2004.

relating to the above application, were deposited as "First Class Mail" with the United States Postal Service, addressed to: MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on June 28, 2004.

Date: June 28, 2004

Kathy Hamilton
Mailer

Date: June 25, 2004
Docket Clerk
P.O. Drawer 800889
Dallas, Texas 75380
Phone: (972) 628-3600
Fax: (972) 628-3616
E-mail: wmunck@davismunck.com

W.M. Munck
William A. Munck
Reg. No. 39,308

DOCKET NO.: P04729
CLIENT NO.: NATI15-04729
Customer No.: 23990



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of : AVIV MALINOVITCH
U.S. Serial No. : 09/780,100
Filing Date : February 9, 2001
Title : APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR PROVIDING
MULTIPLE POWER SUPPLY VOLTAGES TO AN
INTEGRATED CIRCUIT
Examiner : Robert L. Deberadinis
Group Art Unit : 2836
Confirmation No. : 6462

MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

PETITION TO WITHDRAW HOLDING OF ABANDONMENT

In response to the Notice of Abandonment mailed May 6, 2004, Applicant submits this Petition.

A Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due was mailed on December 31, 2003. Applicant subsequently mailed the Part B Issue Fee Transmittal, Fee Transmittal, Transmittal Letter, Request for Reconsideration of Patent Term Adjustment Determination Under 37 C.F.R. 1.705(b), Certificate of Mailing by First Class Mail and postcard forwarding same on March 31, 2004. A check in the amount of \$1,860.00 for the issue fee (\$1,330.00), Request for Reconsideration of Patent Term Adjustment (\$200.00), publication fee (\$300.00) and soft copies (\$30.00) was also included. The Certificate of Mailing was signed by Laura Zavala and the undersigned attorney of record William

A. Munck. A copy of the documents as filed are attached hereto.

Also attached hereto are executed Statements of Laura Zavala and Kathy Hamilton explaining the steps taken to timely pay the issue fee in the above-identified matter.

Finally attached hereto is an Account Detail Report indicating that postage was charged to our client number NATI15-04729 on March 31, 2004 in the amount of \$16.75 in connection with this matter.

Applicant respectfully requests that the holding of abandonment be withdrawn and the application be allowed to pass to issuance.

While no fee is believed to be due for the filing of this Petition, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment of fees due by virtue of this Petition to Deposit Account No. 50-0208.

If the Examiner requires any further assistance in this matter, the Applicant respectfully invites the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below or at wmunck@davismunck.com.

Respectfully submitted,

DAVIS MUNCK, P.C.

Date: June 25, 2004



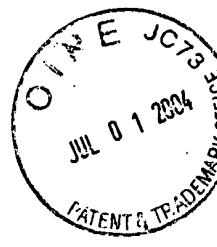
William A. Munck

Registration No. 39,308

Docket Clerk
P.O. Drawer 800889
Dallas, Texas 75380
Tel: (972) 628-3600
Fax: (972) 628-3616
e-mail: wmunck@davismunck.com

DAVIS MUNCK, A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

ACCOUNT DETAIL REPORT



Date Range
From 3/31/2004 0:00
To 3/31/2004 23:59

Nati15-04729 National Semiconductor Corp. / U.s. Patent Application

Copy Transaction(s)

<u>User Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>UnitID</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Size</u>	
Zavaia Laura	3/31/2004	17:37	CFX02		Letter	

Transtotals for Copy:

Net Charges Status

	<u>Pages</u>	<u>Net Charges</u>	<u>Status</u>
	75	15.00	Billed

Totals For Nati15-04729:

	<u>Net Charges</u>	<u>Status</u>
	1.75	Billed

Grand Total:

16.75

DOCKET NO.: P04729
CLIENT NO.: NATI15-04729
Customer No.: 23990



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of : AVIV MALINOVITCH
U.S. Serial No. : 09/780,100
Filing Date : February 9, 2001
Title : APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR PROVIDING
MULTIPLE POWER SUPPLY VOLTAGES TO AN
INTEGRATED CIRCUIT
Examiner : Robert L. Deberadinis
Group Art Unit : 2836

MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

STATEMENT OF LAURA ZAVALA

I, Laura Zavala, make the following Statement in support of the Petition to Withdraw
Holding of Abandonment.

In response to the Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee(s) Due dated December 31, 2003, I
prepared the Part B Issue Fee Transmittal, Fee Transmittal for FY 2004, Transmittal Letter, Request
for Reconsideration of Patent Term Adjustment Determination Under 37 C.F.R. 1.705(b), check in
the amount of \$1,860.00 for the issue fee (\$1,330.00), request for reconsideration of patent term
adjustment fee (\$200.00), publication fee (\$300.00), and soft copies (\$30.00), and Certificate of
Mailing by First Class Mail for execution by the attorney of record, William A. Munck, for

DOCKET No. P04729
CLIENT No. NATI15-04729
U.S. SERIAL No. 09/780,100
PATENT

submission to the United States Patent and Trademark Office. Copies of the executed paperwork are attached to the Petition to Withdraw Holding of Abandonment filed concurrently herewith.

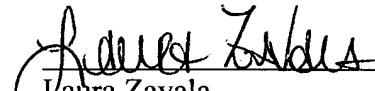
Also attached hereto is an Account Detail Report indicating that photocopies were charged to NATI15-04729 on March 31, 2004 in the amount of \$15.00.

On March 31, 2004, I executed the Certificate of Mailing, made the photocopies, placed the documents in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Issue Fee, Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, and hand-delivered the package to the United States Post Office on that date.

Respectfully submitted,

DAVIS MUNCK, P.C.

Date: May 18, 2004


Laura Zavala
Assistant to William A. Munck, Esq.

May. 13, 2004 09:04:28

DAVIS MUNCK, A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

ACCOUNT DETAIL REPORT

Date Range
 From 3/31/2004 0:00
 To 3/31/2004 23:59

Nati15-04729 National Semiconductor Corp. / U.s. Patent Application

Copy Transaction(s)

User Name	Date	Time	Unit ID	Description	Size	Pages	Net Charges	Status
Zavala I. laura	3/31/2004	17:37	CFX02		Letter	75	15.00	

Transtotals for Copy:

User Name	Date	Time	Unit ID	Description	DisbName	Pages	Net Charges	Status
Hamilton Kathy	3/31/2004	17:27	POSTRAK1		Postage		1.75	Billed

Transtotals for Disb:

Totals For Nati15-04729:

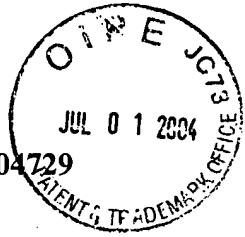
Grand Total:

75
 15.00

75
 15.00

1.75
 Billed

DOCKET NO.: P04729
CLIENT NO.: NATI15-04729
Customer No.: 23990



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of : AVIV MALINOVITCH
U.S. Serial No. : 09/780,100
Filing Date : February 9, 2001
Title : APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR PROVIDING
MULTIPLE POWER SUPPLY VOLTAGES TO AN
INTEGRATED CIRCUIT
Examiner : Robert L. Deberadinis
Group Art Unit : 2836

MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

STATEMENT OF KATHY HAMILTON

I, Kathy Hamilton, make the following Statement in support of the Petition to Withdraw
Holding of Abandonment.

In response to the Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee(s) Due dated December 31, 2003, I
prepared the postage and affixed it to the envelope for mailing the Part B Issue Fee Transmittal, Fee
Transmittal for FY 2004, Transmittal Letter, Request for Reconsideration of Patent Term
Adjustment Determination Under 37 C.F.R. 1.705(b), check in the amount of \$1,860.00 for the issue
fee (\$1,330.00), request for reconsideration of patent term adjustment fee (\$200.00), publication fee
(\$300.00), and soft copies (\$30.00), and Certificate of Mailing by First Class Mail for filing with the

DOCKET NO. P04729
CLIENT NO. NATI15-04729
U.S. SERIAL NO. 09/780,100
PATENT

United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Attached hereto is an Account Detail Report indicating that postage was charged to NATI15-04729 on March 31, 2004 in the amount of \$1.75.

Respectfully submitted,

DAVIS MUNCK, P.C.

Date: June 23, 2004

Kathy Hamilton
Kathy Hamilton
Secretary to William A. Munck, Esq.

ACCOUNT DETAIL REPORT

Date Range
From 3/31/2004 0:00
To 3/31/2004 23:59

Nati15-04729 National Semiconductor Corp. / U.S. Patent Application

<u>User Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Unit ID</u>	<u>Description</u>	Copy Transaction(s)		
					<u>Size</u>	<u>Pages</u>	<u>Net Charges</u>
Zavaia Laura	3/31/2004	11:37	CFX02		Letter	75	15.00

Transtotals for Copy:

<u>User Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Unit ID</u>	<u>Description</u>	Disb Transaction(s)		
					<u>Disb Name</u>	<u>Net Charges</u>	<u>Status</u>
Hamilton Kathy	3/31/2004	11:27	POSTRAK1		Postage	1.75	Billed

Transtotals for Disb:

Totals For Nati15-04729:

Grand Total:

16.75



Mailed: March 31, 2004
In re. Application of: AVIV MALINOVITCH
Serial No.: 09/780,100
Filed: February 9, 2001
Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR PROVIDING MULTIPLE POWER SUPPLY VOLTAGES TO AN INTEGRATED CIRCUIT
Docket No.: P04729
Client No.: NATI15-04729

The following documents were received in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date stamped below:

- 1) Check in the amount of \$1,860.00 for the issue fee (\$1,330.00), request for reconsideration of patent term adjustment fee (\$200.00), publication fee (\$300.00) and soft copies (\$30.00);
- 2) Certificate of Mailing by First Class Mail;
- 3) Fee Transmittal for FY 2004 (in duplicate);
- 4) Transmittal Letter (in duplicate);
- 5) Part B Issue Fee Transmittal (in duplicate); and,
- 6) Request for Reconsideration of Patent Term Adjustment Determination Under 37 C.F.R 1.705(b)

REST AVAILABLE COPY

DAVIS MUNCK, P.C. OPERATING ACCOUNT
A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

45140

VENDOR: Commissioner of Patents

03/31/2004 CHECK NO: 45140

OUR REF. NO.	YOUR INVOICE NUMBER	INVOICE DATE	INVOICE AMOUNT	AMOUNT PAID	DISCOUNT TAKEN
51485.	NATI15-04729 Issue Fee	3/31/2004	1330.00	1330.00	
51486	NATI15-04729 Publication fee	3/31/2004	300.00	300.00	
51487	NATI15-04729 Request for reconsideration of patent term adjustment fee	3/31/2004	200.00	200.00	
51488	NATI15-04729 Soft Copies	3/31/2004	30.00	30.00	

CHECK AMOUNT \$1,860.00

45140

DAVIS MUNCK, P.C.
A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION
900 THREE GALLERIA TOWER
13155 NOEL ROAD
DALLAS, TEXAS 75240
(214) 922-9221

NORTH DALLAS BANK
& TRUST CO.
32-961110

CHECK NO: 45140 CHECK DATE 3/31/2004 VENDOR NO: COMPAT

CHECK AMOUNT \$1,860.00

One thousand eight hundred sixty and NO/100*****

Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks

DAVIS MUNCK, P.C.
PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION
OPERATING ACCOUNT

045140 1000960 381567 7

Security Features Included:
- Dot Matrix
- Microprinting
- UV Ink
- Hologram

DAVIS MUNCK, P.C. OPERATING ACCOUNT
A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

45140

Commissioner of Patents

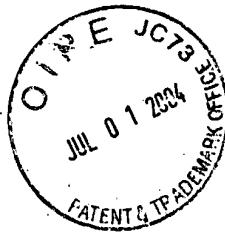
03/31/2004

45140

51485	NATI15-04729 Issue Fee	3/31/2004	1330.00	1330.00
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51487	NATI15-04729 Request for reconsideration of patent term adjustment fee	3/31/2004	200.00	200.00
51488	NATI15-04729 Soft Copies	3/31/2004	30.00	30.00

CHECK AMOUNT \$1,860.00

DOCKET NO.: P04729
CLIENT NO.: NATI15-04729
Customer No. 23990



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : AVIV MALINOVITCH

U.S. Serial No. : 09/780,100

Filed : February 9, 2001

For : APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR PROVIDING MULTIPLE POWER SUPPLY VOLTAGES TO AN INTEGRATED CIRCUIT

Group No. : 2836

Examiner : R. L. Deberadinis

MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

The undersigned hereby certifies that the following documents:

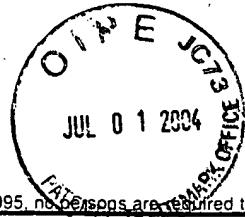
1. Postcard receipt;
2. Check in the amount of \$1,860.00 for the issue fee (\$1,330.00), request for reconsideration of patent term adjustment fee (\$200.00), publication fee (\$300.00) and soft copies (\$30.00);
3. Fee Transmittal for FY 2004 (in duplicate);
4. Transmittal Letter (in duplicate);
5. Part B Issue Fee Transmittal (in duplicate); and,
6. Request for Reconsideration of Patent Term Adjustment Determination Under 37.C.F.R 1.705(b)

relating to the above application, were deposited as "First Class Mail" with the United States Postal Service, addressed to: MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on March 31, 2004.

Date: 3/31/04

Date: 3/31/04
Docket Clerk
P.O. Drawer 800889
Dallas, Texas 75380
Phone: (972) 628-3600
Fax: (972) 628-3616
E-mail: wmunck@davismunck.com

William A. Munck
Mailer
William A. Munck
Reg. No. 39,308



Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no fees or fees are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

FEE TRANSMITTAL

for FY 2004

Effective 10/01/2003. Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

 Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$ 1,860.00)

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/780,100
Filing Date	February 9, 2001
First Named Inventor	Aviv Malinovitch
Examiner Name	R. L. Deberadinis
Art Unit	2836
Attorney Docket No.	P04729

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)

 Check Credit card Money Order Other None
 Deposit Account:

Deposit Account Number	50-0208
Deposit Account Name	Davis Munck

The Director is authorized to: (check all that apply)

Charge fee(s) indicated below Credit any overpayments
 Charge any additional fee(s) or any underpayment of fee(s)
 Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee to the above-identified deposit account.

FEE CALCULATION

1. BASIC FILING FEE

Large Entity	Small Entity	Fee Code (\$)	Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1001 770	2001 385			Utility filing fee	
1002 340	2002 170			Design filing fee	
1003 530	2003 265			Plant filing fee	
1004 770	2004 385			Reissue filing fee	
1005 160	2005 80			Provisional filing fee	
SUBTOTAL (1) (\$)		0.00			

2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES FOR UTILITY AND REISSUE

Total Claims	Independent Claims	Multiple Dependent	Extra Claims	Fee from below	Fee Paid

Large Entity	Small Entity	Fee Code (\$)	Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description
1202 18	2202 9			Claims in excess of 20
1201 86	2201 43			Independent claims in excess of 3
1203 290	2203 145			Multiple dependent claim, if not paid
1204 86	2204 43			** Reissue independent claims over original patent
1205 18	2205 9			** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent
SUBTOTAL (2) (\$)		0.00		

**or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above

FEE CALCULATION (continued)

3. ADDITIONAL FEES

Large Entity	Small Entity	Fee Code (\$)	Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1051 130	2051 65			Surcharge - late filing fee or oath	
1052 50	2052 25			Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet	
1053 130	1053 130			Non-English specification	
1812 2,520	1812 2,520			For filing a request for ex parte reexamination	
1804 920*	1804 920*			Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	
1805 1,840*	1805 1,840*			Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
1251 110	2251 55			Extension for reply within first month	
1252 420	2252 210			Extension for reply within second month	
1253 950	2253 475			Extension for reply within third month	
1254 1,480	2254 740			Extension for reply within fourth month	
1255 2,010	2255 1,005			Extension for reply within fifth month	
1401 330	2401 165			Notice of Appeal	
1402 330	2402 165			Filing a brief in support of an appeal	
1403 290	2403 145			Request for oral hearing	
1451 1,510	1451 1,510			Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
1452 110	2452 55			Petition to revive - unavoidable	
1453 1,330	2453 665			Petition to revive - unintentional	
1501 1,330	2501 665			Utility issue fee (or reissue)	1,330.00
1502 480	2502 240			Design issue fee	
1503 640	2503 320			Plant issue fee	
1460 130	1460 130			Petitions to the Commissioner	
1807 50	1807 50			Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q)	
1806 180	1806 180			Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	
8021 40	8021 40			Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	
1809 770	2809 385			Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a))	
1810 770	2810 385			For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR 1.129(b))	
1801 770	2801 385			Request for Continued Examination (RCE)	
1802 900	1802 900			Request for expedited examination of a design application	
Other fee (specify)		Soft Copies (10); Publication fee; Patent Term Adjustment Request		530.00	
*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid				SUBTOTAL (3) (\$)	1,860.00

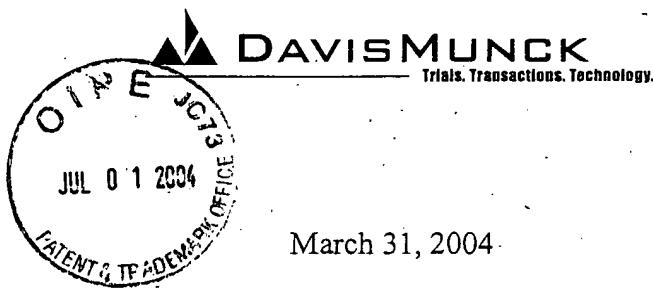
SUBMITTED BY

(Complete if applicable)

Name (Print/Type)	William A. Munck, Esq.	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	39,308	Telephone	(972) 628-3600
Signature	William A. Munck			Date	March 31, 2004

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.17 and 1.27. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.



March 31, 2004

MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: U.S. Patent Application No. 09/780,100
Applicant: AVIV MALINOVITCH
Title: "APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR PROVIDING MULTIPLE POWER SUPPLY VOLTAGES TO AN INTEGRATED CIRCUIT"
Group Art Unit: 2836
Our File: P04729
Client No.: NATI15-04729

Dear Sir:

I enclose for filing with the United States Patent and Trademark Office the following documents:

- 1) Postcard Receipt;
- 2) Check in the amount of \$1,860.00 for the issue fee (\$1,330.00), request for reconsideration of patent term adjustment fee (\$200.00), publication fee (\$300.00) and soft copies (\$30.00);
- 3) Certificate of Mailing by First Class Mail;
- 4) Fee Transmittal for FY 2004 (in duplicate);
- 5) Part B Issue Fee Transmittal (in duplicate); and,
- 6) Request for Reconsideration of Patent Term Adjustment Determination Under 37 C.F.R 1.705(b).

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to the Davis Munck Deposit Account No. 50-0208.

Very truly yours,

DAVIS MUNCK, P.C.



William A. Munck
Registration No. 39,308

WAM/lmz
Enclosures

PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

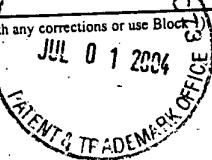
Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: Mail or Fax (703) 746-4000
Mail Stop ISSUE FEE
 Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 4 should be completed when appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent Advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Note: Legibly mark-up with any corrections or use Block 1)

7590

12/31/2003



Docket Clerk
 P.O. Drawer 800889
 Dallas, TX 75380

Note: A certificate of mailing can only be used for domestic mailings of Fee(s) Transmittal. This certificate cannot be used for any other accompany papers. Each additional paper, such as an assignment or formal drawing, must have its own certificate of mailing or transmission.

Certificate of Mailing or Transmission
 I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO, on the date indicated below.

1 JULIA ZAVALA
 Robert Andra
 313104

(Depositor's name)

(Signature)

(D)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/780,100	02/09/2001	Aviv Malinovitch	P04729	6462

TITLE OF INVENTION: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR PROVIDING MULTIPLE POWER SUPPLY VOLTAGES TO AN INTEGRATED CIRCUIT

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE	PUBLICATION FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1330	\$300	\$1630	03/31/2004
EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS			
DEBERADINIS, ROBERT L	2836	307-070000			

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).

Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.

"Fee-Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47, Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. Use of a Customer Number is required.

2. For printing on the patent front page, list (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively, (2) the name of a single firm (having as a member, a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed.

1 _____
 2 _____
 3 _____

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. Inclusion of assignee data is only appropriate when an assignment has been previously submitted to the USPTO or is being submitted under separate cover. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE

(B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

National Semiconductor Corporation

Santa Clara, California, USA

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent): individual corporation or other private group entity government

4a. The following fee(s) are enclosed:

Issue Fee

Publication Fee

Advance Order - # of Copies -10-

4b. Payment of Fee(s):

A check in the amount of the fee(s) is enclosed.

Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), or credit any overpayment
 Deposit Account Number -10- (enclose an extra copy of this form).

Director for Patents is requested to apply the Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if any) or to re-apply any previously paid issue fee to the application identified above.

(Authorized Signature)

(Date)

2/31/04

NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

DOCKET NO. P04729
CLIENT NO.: NATI15-04729
Customer No. 23990



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Aviv Malinovitch

Serial No.: 09/780,100

Filed: February 9, 2001

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR PROVIDING MULTIPLE
POWER SUPPLY VOLTAGES TO AN INTEGRATED
CIRCUIT

Group No.: 2836

Examiner: Robert L. Deberadinis

MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF PATENT TERM ADJUSTMENT
DETERMINATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.705(b)

The Applicant respectfully requests the Office reconsider the patent term adjustment determination for the above-identified application.

In support, the Applicant submits the following:

1. In the Notice of Allowance mailed December 31, 2003, the patent term adjustment was determined to be 74 days. The Applicant believes this determination to be in error.

2. The Applicant believes the correct patent term adjustment should be calculated as 78 days (an increase of 4 days).
3. This patent application was filed on February 9, 2001.
4. The first office action on the merits was mailed on October 7, 2002. The first office action on the merits was therefore issued 181 days after 14 months from the filing date (+181 days).
5. As shown in the Appendix, a response to the first office action was received by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on February 6, 2003. The response was therefore received 30 days after three months from the date of the first office action (-30 days).
6. The second office action on the merits was mailed on May 2, 2003.
7. A response to the second office action was mailed on August 4, 2003. It appears that the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office did not receive this communication.
8. A copy of the response to the second office action was mailed on October 10, 2003 as part of a Status Inquiry. The Status Inquiry was received by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on October 14, 2003. As a result, the response to the second office action was received 73 days after three months from the mailing date of the second office action (-73 days).
9. Based on this, the Applicant submits that the correct patent term adjustment should be calculated as 78 days (181 days - 30 days - 73 days).
10. In the event the Applicant's calculation is incorrect and the Applicant is entitled to a greater patent term adjustment, the Applicant respectfully requests the Office to determine and issue the proper patent term adjustment entitled to the Applicant.

DOCKET NO. P04729
SERIAL NO. 09/780,100
PATENT

Therefore, the Applicant respectfully requests the Office to reconsider the determination of patent term adjustment.

If any issues arise, the Applicant respectfully invites the Office to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below or at wmunck@davismunck.com.

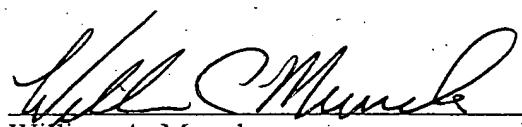
The Applicant has included the \$200.00 fee for this petition. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees connected with this communication or credit any overpayment to Davis Munck Deposit Account No. 50-0208.

Respectfully submitted,

DAVIS MUNCK, P.C.

Date:

3/31/04


William A. Munck
Registration No. 39,308

Docket Clerk
P.O. Drawer 800889
Dallas, Texas 75380
Tel: (972) 628-3600
Fax: (972) 628-3616
E-mail: wmunck@davismunck.com

DOCKET NO. P04729
SERIAL NO. 09/780,100
PATENT

APPENDIX

COPY OF RESPONSE TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION

Mailed: January 30, 2003
In re. Application of: AVIV MALINOVITCH
Serial No.: 09/780,100
Filed: February 9, 2001
Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR PROVIDING MULTIPLE POWER SUPPLY VOLTAGES TO AN INTEGRATED CIRCUIT
Docket No.: P04729
Client No.: NATI15-04729

The following documents were received in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date stamped below:

- 1) Check in the amount of \$110.00 for Extension of Time filing fee;
- 2) Certificate of Mailing by First Class Mail;
- 3) Fee Transmittal for FY 2003 (in duplicate);
- 4) Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. §1.111; and,
- 5) Petition for Extension of Time (1 mo.) (in duplicate).



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FEB 12 2003

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FEB 12 2003
DAVIS MUNCK

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Mailed:	January 30, 2003
In re. Application of:	AVIV MALINOVITCH
Serial No.:	09/780,100
Filed:	February 9, 2001
Title:	APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR PROVIDING MULTIPLE POWER SUPPLY VOLTAGES TO AN INTEGRATED CIRCUIT
Docket No.:	P04729
Client No.:	NATI15-04729

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- 1) Check in the amount of \$110.00 for Extension of Time filing fee;
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- 3) Fee Transmittal for FY 2003 (in duplicate);
- 4) Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. §1.111; and,
- 5) Petition for Extension of Time (1 mo.) (in duplicate).

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JUL 01 2004

PTO/SB/17 (01-03)

Approved for use through 04/30/2003. OMB 0651-0032
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no person is required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2003

Effective 01/01/2003. Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

 Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$ 110.00)

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/780,100
Filing Date	February 9, 2001
First Named Inventor	Aviv Malinovitch
Examiner Name	R. L. DeBerardinis
Art Unit	2836
Attorney Docket No.	P04729

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)

 Check Credit card Money Order Other None
 Deposit Account:

Deposit Account Number 140448
Deposit Account Name National Semiconductor Corporation

The Commissioner is authorized to: (check all that apply)

Charge fee(s) indicated below Credit any overpayments
 Charge any additional fee(s) during the pendency of this application
 Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee to the above-identified deposit account.

FEE CALCULATION

1. BASIC FILING FEE

Large Entity	Small Entity	Fee Code (\$)	Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1001 750	2001 375	Utility filing fee			
1002 330	2002 165	Design filing fee			
1003 520	2003 260	Plant filing fee			
1004 750	2004 375	Reissue filing fee			
1005 160	2005 80	Provisional filing fee			
SUBTOTAL (1) (\$ 0.00)					

2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES FOR UTILITY AND REISSUE

Total Claims	Independent Claims	Multiple Dependent	Extra Claims	Fee from below:	Fee Paid
			-20** =	X	=
			-3** =	X	=

Large Entity	Small Entity	Fee Code (\$)	Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description
1202 18	2202 9	Claims in excess of 20		
1201 84	2201 42	Independent claims in excess of 3		
1203 280	2203 140	Multiple dependent claim, if not paid		
1204 84	2204 42	** Reissue independent claims over original patent		
1205 18	2205 9	** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent		
SUBTOTAL (2) (\$ 0.00)				

** or number previously paid, if greater. For Reissues, see above

3. ADDITIONAL FEES

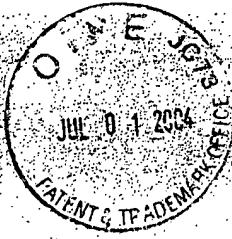
Large Entity	Small Entity	Fee Code (\$)	Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1051 130	2051 65	Surcharge - late filing fee or oath			
1052 50	2052 25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet			
1053 130	1053 130	Non-English specification			
1812 2,520	1812 2,520	For filing a request for ex parte reexamination			
1804 920*	1804 920*	Requesting publication of SIR, prior to Examiner action			
1805 1,840*	1805 1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action			
1251 110	2251 55	Extension for reply within first month			110.00
1252 410	2252 205	Extension for reply within second month			
1253 930	2253 465	Extension for reply within third month			
1254 1,450	2254 725	Extension for reply within fourth month			
1255 1,970	2255 985	Extension for reply within fifth month			
1401 320	2401 160	Notice of Appeal			
1402 320	2402 160	Filing a brief in support of an appeal			
1403 280	2403 140	Request for oral hearing			
1451 1,510	1451 1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding			
1452 110	2452 55	Petition to revive - unavoidable			
1453 1,300	2453 650	Petition to revive - unintentional			
1501 1,300	2501 650	Utility issue fee (or reissue)			
1502 470	2502 235	Design issue fee			
1503 630	2503 315	Plant issue fee			
1460 130	1460 130	Petitions to the Commissioner			
1807 50	1807 50	Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q)			
1806 180	1806 180	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt			
8021 40	8021 40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)			
1809 750	2809 375	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a))			
1810 750	2810 375	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR 1.129(b))			
1801 750	2801 375	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)			
1802 900	1802 900	Request for expedited examination of a design application			
Other fee (specify)					
*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid					
SUBTOTAL (3) (\$ 110.00)					

SUBMITTED BY (Complete if applicable)

Name (Print/Type)	William A. Munck	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	39,308	Telephone 972-628-3600
Signature	William A. Munck		Date	Jan. 30, 2003

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.17 and 1.27. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.



DOCKET NO.: P04729
CLIENT NO.: NATI15-04729
Customer No. 23990

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : AVIV MALINOVITCH
U. S. Serial No. : 09/780,100
Filed : February 9, 2001
For : APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR PROVIDING
MULTIPLE POWER SUPPLY VOLTAGES TO AN
INTEGRATED CIRCUIT
Group No. : 2836
Examiner : Robert L. DeBerardinis

BOX FEE AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

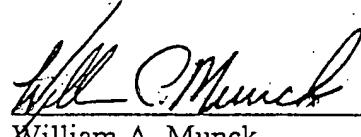
Applicant respectfully requests a one month extension of time for filing a response to the Office Action mailed October 7, 2002. The response period is presently set to expire on January 7, 2003, and if this Request for Extension of Time is granted, the new response date will be February 7, 2003.

DOCKET NO. P04729
U.S. SERIAL NO. 09/780,100
PATENT

A check in the amount of \$110.00 is enclosed for the extension of time filing fee; the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to National Semiconductor Corporation Deposit Account No. 140448.

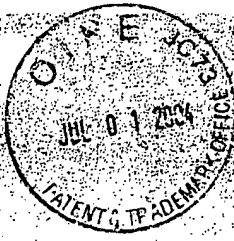
Respectfully submitted,

DAVIS MUNCK, P.C.



William A. Munck
Registration No. 39,308

Date: Jan 30, 2003
Docket Clerk
P.O. Drawer 800889
Dallas, Texas 75380
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Email: wmunck@davismunck.com



DOCKET NO.: P04729
CLIENT NO.: NATI15-04729
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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : AVIV MALINOVITCH
U. S. Serial No. : 09/780,100
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MULTIPLE POWER SUPPLY VOLTAGES TO AN
INTEGRATED CIRCUIT
Group No. : 2836
Examiner : Robert L. DeBerardinis

BOX FEE AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

This Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 is responsive to an Office Action dated October 7, 2002, which has a shortened statutory period of response set to expire on January 7, 2003. The Applicant is submitting a request for a one (1) month extension of time. If the request is granted, the time for response will be extended to February 7, 2003. Please amend the patent application as indicated below.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend Page 3, Lines 3-9, as follows:

In System-On-a-Chip implementations like the Geode™ SC1400 described above, different modules on the chip may be analog and/or digital, according to their designed function. For example, the bridge and the processors are digital modules, while the super input/output (I/O) module is an analog module. The super input/output (I/O) module comprises analog elements because it processes analog signals.

Please amend Page 21, Line 24 to Page 22, Line 13, as follows:

FIGURE 3 illustrates an exemplary embodiment of a power sense cell 300 for use with the apparatus and method of the present invention. Power sense cells 211, 221, 224, and 231 may each comprise a power sense cell of the type illustrated by power sense cell 300. Power sense cell technology is well known. Various implementations of power sense cells may be adequate for use in the present invention. Power sense cell 300 comprises a Schmitt trigger circuit 304. Schmitt trigger circuit 304 is a bistable circuit in which a transition from the output state from a High level to a Low level occurs at a lower output voltage than the input voltage required for a transition of the output state from a Low level to a High level. This feature is indicated by the hysteresis loop shown on the Schmitt trigger symbol in FIGURE 3:

REMARKS

Claims 1-24 are pending in the patent application ("Application").

Claims 1-24 have been rejected.

No claims have been allowed.

Claims 1-24 remain in this Application.

Reconsideration of Claims 1-24 is respectfully requested.

Specification

The Applicant has amended the specification to correct certain typographical errors.

No new matter has been entered as a result of these amendments.

Claim Rejections 35 U.S.C. § 102

In Paragraphs 1-2 on Pages 2-3 of the October 7, 2002 Office Action the Examiner rejected Claims 1, 2, 8, 9, 15 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 6,195,755 to *Webster et al.* (hereafter "*Webster*"). The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of Claims 1, 2, 8, 9, 15 and 20.

It is axiomatic that a prior art reference anticipates the claimed invention under 35 U.S.C. § 102 only if every element of a claimed invention is identically shown in that single reference, arranged as they are in the claims. MPEP § 2131; *See, In re King*, 231 U.S.P.Q. 136, 138

(Fed. Cir. 1986) (citing with approval, *Lindemann Maschinenfabrik v. American Hoist and Derrick*, 221 U.S.P.Q. 481, 485 (Fed. Cir. 1984)); *In re Bond*, 910 F.2d 831, 832, 15 U.S.P.Q.2d 1566, 1567 (Fed. Cir. 1990). Anticipation is only shown where each and every limitation of the claimed invention is found in a single prior art reference. MPEP § 2131; *In re Donohue*, 766 F.2d 531, 534, 226 U.S.P.Q. 619, 621 (Fed. Cir. 1985).

With respect to any of Claims 1, 2, 8, 9, 15 and 20, a determination of anticipation in accordance with Section 102 requires that each feature claimed therein be described in sufficient detail in *Webster* to enable one of ordinary skill in the art to make and practice the claimed invention.

In rejecting Claims 1, 8, and 20, the Examiner stated that:

WEBSTER discloses for use in an integrated circuit of the type comprising at least two power supply domains (function circuits, column 4, line 7) in which each power supply domain comprises at least one module powered by the same voltage level, an apparatus for blocking an output signal in a first power supply domain from being sent to a second power supply domain when said second power supply domain is in a low power mode (column 5, lines 34-66, column 6, lines 1-50). (October 7, 2002 Office Action, Paragraph 2, Page 2).

The Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's assertions regarding the subject matter disclosed in the *Webster* reference. The Applicant respectfully submits that the *Webster* reference does not show each and every limitation of the Applicant's invention. The Applicant directs the Examiner's attention to Claim 1, which contains unique and novel limitations:

1. For use in an integrated circuit of the type comprising at least two power supply domains in which each power supply domain comprises at least one module powered by the same voltage level, an apparatus for blocking an output signal in a first power supply domain from being sent to a second power supply domain when said second power supply domain is in a low power mode. (Emphasis added).

The Applicant's invention is directed to an apparatus and method for blocking an output signal in a first power supply domain from being sent to a second power supply domain when the second power supply domain is in a low power mode. The Applicant's invention is also directed to an apparatus and method for blocking an output signal from a first power supply domain from being received in a second power supply domain when the first power supply domain is in a low power mode. The Applicant's invention prevents the occurrence of "Back Drive" problems. As described in the specification (Pages 13-14) "Back Drive" problems are created when a data signal that is correctly sent from an active power supply domain is incorrectly received by an inactive power supply domain.

Webster does not disclose, teach or suggest an apparatus and method for blocking an output signal in a first power supply domain from being sent to a second power supply domain when the second power supply domain is in a low power mode. *Webster* also does not disclose, teach or suggest an apparatus and method for blocking an output signal from a first power supply domain from being received in a second power supply domain when the first power supply domain is in a low power mode.

Webster discloses a power management apparatus for an integrated circuit in which "the power to a functional circuit contained in an integrated circuit is not completely removed, but decreased such that the functional circuit is placed in a reduced power mode of operation." (*Webster*, Column 2, Lines 50-53).

The Applicant respectfully traverses the assertion of the Examiner that the functional circuit 99 of *Webster* is equivalent to a power supply domain of the type described by the Applicant. *Webster*'s definition of a functional circuit (*Webster*, Column 4, Lines 7-8) states that a functional circuit is "a means for performing a specified electronic function or group of electronic functions." Generally speaking, this definition of a functional circuit does not imply that the functional circuit comprises at least two power supply domains. There are many functional circuits that operate with only one power supply.

Webster shows a Power In Net No. 1 (40) of functional circuit 99 that may be considered analogous to a power supply domain. In the prior art circuit shown in Figure 1 of *Webster* Power In Net No. 1 (40) receives power from Power In Pad No. 1 (20). *Webster* also shows a plurality of "Power In Net" modules (up to Power In Net No. P (41)) within functional circuit 99. In the prior art circuit shown in Figure 1 of *Webster* Power In Net No. P (41) receives power from Power In Pad No. P (21).

In the apparatus of *Webster* shown in Figures 2 through 4 *Webster* places a "variable power source" (VPS) circuit between each "Power In Pad" (located at the edge of integrated circuit 201,

202 and 203) and its corresponding "Power In Net" (located in functional circuit 99). For example, Variable Power Source No. 1 (60) is located between Power In Pad No. 1 (20) and Power In Net No. 1 (40). Variable Power Source No. 1 (60) converts a first voltage level to a second voltage level and provides the second voltage level to Power In Net No. 1 (40) (*Webster*, Column 11, Lines 54-65).

Similarly, Variable Power Source No. P (61) is located between Power In Pad No. P (21) and Power In Net No. P (41). Variable Power Source No. P (61) converts a first voltage level to a second voltage level and provides the second voltage level to Power In Net No. P (41) (*Webster*, Column 11, Line 66 to Column 12, Line 10). *Webster* controls the plurality of Variable Power Sources with Power Control Pad 26.

Each Power In Net in functional circuit 99 is coupled to its own corresponding Power In Pad through its own corresponding Variable Power Source. That is, each Variable Power Source is exclusively coupled to its own Power In Net. For example, there is no connection between Variable Power Source No. 1 (60) and Power In Net No. P (41).

Furthermore, *Webster* does not disclose any communication between the various Power In Net modules in functional circuit 99. There is no mention of any communication between Power In Net No. 1 (40) and Power In Net No. P (41). Therefore, it is clear that *Webster* is completely silent concerning the concept of sending a signal from a first power supply domain to a second power supply domain. Accordingly, there is nothing in *Webster* that discloses, teaches or suggests the

concept of sending signals (or blocking signals) between two power supply domains. There is nothing in *Webster* than discloses, teaches or suggests the concept of sending signals (or blocking signals) between two power supply domains based upon the state of the power level of one of the two power supply domains.

The Applicant respectfully traverses the assertion of the Examiner that *Webster* comprises "an apparatus for blocking an output signal in a first power supply domain from being sent to a second power supply domain when said second power supply domain is in a low power mode (column 5, lines 34-66, column 6, lines 1-50)." Nothing in the portion of the *Webster* patent cited by the Examiner (or in any other portion of the *Webster* patent) recites the unique and novel claim limitations of Claim 1, Claim 8 and Claim 20 of the present patent application.

With respect to Claim 2 and Claim 9 the Examiner stated that *Webster* does not disclose a power sense cell. The Applicant agrees that *Webster* does not disclose a power sense cell. The Examiner then asserted that a Variable Power Source unit of *Webster* inherently comprises a power sense cell. (October 7, 2002 Office Action, Page 3, Lines 1-5). For the reasons set forth below, the Applicant respectfully traverses the assertion that a Variable Power Source unit of *Webster* inherently comprises a power sense cell.

The definition of the term "Variable Power Source" in *Webster* (Column 4, Line 37 to Column 5, Line 2) states that a variable power source comprises (1) a control input terminal, (2) a power input terminal, and (3) a power output terminal. "As used herein, when the control input

terminal is asserted, the variable power source converts a first voltage within a specified range of values present at its power input terminal to a second voltage within a specified range of values at its power output terminal." (*Webster*, Column 4, Lines 46-50). The control signal is provided to the variable power sources through Power Control Pad 26. "A voltage capable of asserting the control input terminals of Variable Power Source #1 60 through Variable Power Source #P 61, and I/O Switch # 1 62 through I/O Switch # K 63 is applied to Power Control Pad 26 by an external agent (not shown)." (*Webster*, Column 11, Lines 43-47) (Emphasis added).

There is no disclosure, teaching or suggestion in the portion of the *Webster* patent cited by the Examiner (or in any other portion of the *Webster* patent) that a power sense cell is inherent in the Variable Power Source units of *Webster*. The Variable Power Source units passively receive a control signal from an external source. The Variable Power Source units do not actively sense the power levels of portions of functional circuit 99. Therefore, the Variable Power Source units of *Webster* do not inherently comprise power sense cells. *Webster* does not anticipate the subject matter of Claim 2 and of Claim 9 of the present patent application.

For the reasons set forth above, the Applicant also respectfully traverses the Examiner's rejection of Claim 15. *Webster* does not use a power sense cell to detect when a power supply domain is in a low power mode. *Webster* does not block an output signal from a first power supply domain from being sent to a second power supply domain. *Webster* does not anticipate the subject matter of Claim 15 of the present patent application.

Claim Rejections 35 U.S.C. § 103

In Paragraphs 3-4 on Pages 4-6 of the October 7, 2002 Office Action the Examiner rejected Claims 3, 4, 10, 11, 16, 17, 21 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Webster*. The Examiner also rejected Claims 5, 6, 7, 12, 13, 14, 18, 19, 23 and 24 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Webster* in view of United States Patent No. 5,848,281 issued to *Smalley et al.* (hereafter "Smalley").

The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of Claims 3-7, 10-14, 16-19 and 21-24. The Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the rejections of the above referenced claims in view of the Applicant's remarks concerning the prior art references.

During *ex parte* examinations of patent applications, the Patent Office bears the burden of establishing a *prima facie* case of obviousness. MPEP § 2142; *In re Fritch*, 972 F.2d 1260, 1262, 23 U.S.P.Q.2d 1780, 1783 (Fed. Cir. 1992). The initial burden of establishing a *prima facie* basis to deny patentability to a claimed invention is always upon the Patent Office. MPEP § 2142; *In re Oetiker*, 977 F.2d 1443, 1445, 24 U.S.P.Q.2d 1443, 1444 (Fed. Cir. 1992); *In re Piasecki*, 745 F.2d 1468, 1472, 223 USPQ 785, 788 (Fed. Cir. 1984). Only when a *prima facie* case of obviousness is established does the burden shift to the applicant to produce evidence of non-obviousness. MPEP § 2142; *In re Oetiker*, 977 F.2d 1443, 1445, 24 U.S.P.Q.2d 1443, 1444 (Fed. Cir. 1992); *In re Rijckaert*, 9 F.3d 1531, 1532, 28 U.S.P.Q.2d 1955, 1956 (Fed. Cir. 1993). If the Patent Office does

not produce a *prima facie* case of unpatentability, then without more the applicant is entitled to grant of a patent. *In re Oetiker*, 977 F.2d 1443, 1445, 24 U.S.P.Q.2d 1443, 1444 (Fed. Cir. 1992); *In re Grabiak*, 769 F.2d 729, 733, 226 USPQ 870, 873 (Fed. Cir. 1985).

A *prima facie* case of obviousness is established when the teachings of the prior art itself suggest the claimed subject matter to a person of ordinary skill in the art. *In re Bell*, 991 F.2d 781, 783, 26 U.S.P.Q.2d 1529, 1531 (Fed. Cir. 1993). To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, three basic criteria must be met. First, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. The teaching or suggestion to make the claimed invention and the reasonable expectation of success must both be found in the prior art, and not be based on an applicant's disclosure. MPEP § 2142.

The Applicant respectfully submits that the Patent Office has not established a *prima facie* case of obviousness with respect to the Applicant's invention. The Applicant reiterates the arguments that the Applicant has previously made with respect to the *Webster* reference. There is no teaching, suggestion or even a hint in the *Webster* reference concerning the Applicant's novel and unique concepts of (1) blocking an output signal in a first power supply domain from being sent to a second power supply domain when the second power supply domain is in a low power mode, and

(2) blocking an output signal from a first power supply domain from being received in a second power supply domain when the first power supply domain is in a low power mode. A teaching or suggestion to make the Applicant's invention and a reasonable expectation of success is not found in the *Webster* reference (or in any other prior art reference). Therefore, the Applicant's invention is not *prima facie* obvious in view of the *Webster* reference.

With respect to Claims 3, 4, 10, 11, 16, 17, 21 and 22 the Examiner has stated that "WEBSTER discloses functional circuits and a logical term, deasserted state, implying that a logical function has taken place (column 4, line 21)." (October 7, 2002 Office Action, Paragraph 4, Page 4). The Applicant agrees that *Webster* discloses a functional circuit. The Applicant respectfully disagrees that the *Webster* definition of the term "deasserted state" as a "logical term" in Column 4, Line 21 implies that the *Webster* apparatus is capable of performing a "logical function" of the type disclosed and claimed by the Applicant. There must be some actual circuit disclosed in *Webster* that can perform the allegedly implied "logical function."

As previously mentioned, the control signal to each of the Variable Power Sources in *Webster* is provided by Power Control Pad 26. The control signal is provided by an external agent (not shown)." (*Webster*, Column 11, Lines 43-47) (Emphasis added). There is no showing that *Webster* uses logic circuits to "receive logic levels from a power sense cell." This is because *Webster* does not have any power sense cells. There is no showing that *Webster* uses logic levels from a power sense cell to send or block signals between power supply domains. In short, *Webster*

is completely silent on the subject matter of Claims 3, 4, 10, 11, 16, 17, 21 and 22. The Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's assertion that Claims 3, 4, 10, 11, 16, 17, 21 and 22 are obvious in view of *Webster*.

With respect to Claims 5, 6, 12, 13, 18, 19, 23 and 24 the Examiner has stated that "WEBSTER discloses the apparatus as claimed in claim 2." For the reasons set forth above, the Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's assertion that *Webster* discloses the Applicant's invention as claimed in Claim 2. The Examiner also stated that "WEBSTER does not disclose a schmitt trigger." The Applicant agrees that *Webster* does not disclose a Schmitt trigger.

The Examiner also stated that "SMALLEY discloses a schmitt trigger (column 7, lines 42-49) device operated as a synchronizer circuit for synchronizing the asynchronous sleep and idle signals with the clock signal. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of this invention to provide an apparatus as claimed in claim 2 wherein said power sense cell comprises a schmitt trigger circuit and an apparatus for synchronizing blocked clock signals to prevent clock signals from being shortened by a signal from said power sense cell in order to maintain sensing transition to only occur during a clock transition to maintain system synchronization." (October 7, 2002 Office Action, Page 5). The Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's assertion that it would have been obvious to combine the *Webster* reference with the *Smalley* reference.

Under the applicable patent law, there must be some teaching, suggestion or motivation to combine the *Webster* reference and the *Smalley* reference. "When a rejection depends on a combination of prior art references, there must be some teaching, or motivation to combine the references." *In re Rouffet*, 149 F.3d 1350, 1355-56, 47 USPQ2d 1453, 1456 (Fed. Cir. 1998). "It is insufficient to establish obviousness that the separate elements of an invention existed in the prior art, absent some teaching or suggestion, in the prior art, to combine the references." *Arkie Lures, Inc. v. Gene Larew Tackle, Inc.*, 119 F.3d 953, 957, 43 USPQ2d 1294, 1297 (Fed. Cir. 1997). The Applicant respectfully submits that there exists no teaching, suggestion or motivation in the prior art to combine the teachings of the *Webster* reference and the teachings of the *Smalley* reference.

When two references are combined the combination of the references must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. In the present case, even if the *Webster* reference were combined with the *Smalley* reference, the combination of the *Webster* reference and the *Smalley* reference would not teach, suggest or even hint at the Applicant's invention. This is because neither the *Webster* reference nor the *Smalley* reference teaches, suggests, or even hints at the Applicant's concepts of (1) using power sense cells to detect power levels of separate power supply domains, or (2) blocking an output signal in a first power supply domain from being sent to a second power supply domain when the second power supply domain is in a low power mode, or (3) blocking an output signal from a first power supply domain from being received in a second power supply domain when the

first power supply domain is in a low power mode. The Applicant respectfully submits that the rejections of Claims 5, 6, 12, 13, 18, 19, 23 and 24 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) combining the *Webster* reference and the *Smalley* reference should be withdrawn.

With respect to Claim 7 and Claim 14 the Examiner has stated that "It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of this invention to merely arrange D flip flops and logic gates to generate control signals to control a power management apparatus for integrated circuit applications." (October 7, 2002 Office Action, Page 6). For the reasons set forth above, the Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's assertion that it would be obvious to combine the teachings of *Webster* with the teachings of *Smalley*.

When two references are combined the combination of the references must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. In the present case, even if the *Webster* reference were combined with the *Smalley* reference, the combination of the *Webster* reference and the *Smalley* reference would not teach, suggest or even hint at the Applicant's invention in Claim 7 or in Claim 14. This is because neither the *Webster* reference nor the *Smalley* reference teaches, suggests, or even hints at the Applicant's concepts of (1) using power sense cells to detect power levels of separate power supply domains, or (2) blocking an output signal in a first power supply domain from being sent to a second power supply domain when the second power supply domain is in a low power mode, or (3) blocking an output signal from a first power supply domain from being received in a second power supply domain when the first power supply domain is in a low power mode. The Applicant

DOCKET NO. P04729
U.S. SERIAL NO. 09/780,100
PATENT

respectfully submits that the rejections of Claim 7 and Claim 14 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) combining the *Webster* reference and the *Smalley* reference should be withdrawn.

The Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1-24 are all patentable over the *Webster* reference and the *Smalley* reference whether taken individually or in combination. The Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of Claims 1-24 be withdrawn and that Claims 1-24 be passed to issue.

The Applicant's attorney has made the amendments herein and the arguments set forth above in order to place this Application in condition for allowance. In the alternative, the Applicant's attorney is making the same to properly frame the issues for appeal. In this Amendment, the Applicant makes no admission concerning any now moot rejection or objection, and affirmatively denies any position, statement or averment of the Examiner that was not specifically addressed herein.

DOCKET NO. P04729
U.S. SERIAL NO. 09/780,100
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SUMMARY

The Applicant respectfully requests consideration and allowance of the above claims. If any issues arise, or if the Examiner has any suggestions for expediting allowance of this Application, the Applicant respectfully invites the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below or at wmunck@davismunck.com.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees connected with this Amendment or credit any overpayment to National Semiconductor Deposit Account No. 14-0448.

Respectfully submitted,

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APPENDIX A

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 3, Lines 3-9, has been amended as follows:

In System-On-a-Chip implementations like the Geode™ SC1400 described above, different modules on the chip may be analog and/or digital, according to their designed function. For example, the bridge and the processors are digital modules, while the super input/output (I/O) [modules] module is an analog module. The super input/output (I/O) [modules] module comprises analog elements because it processes analog signals.

Page 21, Line 24 to Page 22, Line13, has been amended as follows:

FIGURE 3 illustrates an exemplary embodiment of a power sense cell 300 for use with the apparatus and method of the present invention. Power sense cells 211, [222] 221, 224, and 231 may each comprise a power sense cell of the type illustrated by power sense cell 300. Power sense cell technology is well known. Various implementations of power sense cells may be adequate for use in the present invention. Power sense cell 300 comprises a Schmitt trigger circuit 304. Schmitt trigger circuit 304 is a bistable circuit in which a transition from the output state from a High level to a Low level occurs at a lower output voltage than the input voltage required for a transition of the output state from a Low level to a High level. This feature is indicated by the hysteresis loop shown on the Schmitt trigger symbol in FIGURE 3.